

REMARKS

The office action of July 31, 2006 indicates that this application contains claims directed to the following patently distinct species: pressure or hydraulic means in claims 1, 3-5 and 9, and pneumatic means in claims 18-28.

Applicant notes that claim 1 sets forth a pressure means, and that none of the claims specifically set forth a hydraulic means. Therefore the election of species requirements is incorrect.

The pressure means to set forth in claim 1 is for generating an overpressure. As applicant describes in the specification, in paragraph 10, the overpressure can be generated pneumatically or hydraulically. It is applicant's position that such a pressure means, especially as set forth in claim 1, can be embodied by either a hydraulic structure or a pneumatic structure. Therefore claim 1 broadly sets forth, and generically covers, both pneumatic and hydraulic structure. It is applicant's position therefore that original independent claims 1 and 18 are not different species.

Applicant has amended claim 18 and its dependent claims to change the term "pneumatic device" to "pressure device". These claims now broadly cover both pneumatic and hydraulic devices i.e. the overpressure can be generated either hydraulically or pneumatically. Claims 1 and 18, and their dependent claims are therefore generic. Also this application no longer separately claims a pneumatic species. Therefore the election requirement is now moot.


In order to properly respond to the official election of species, applicant elects the pressure means as set forth in claim 1. However as described above it is applicant's position

that the election requirement and applicant's subsequent election is now moot.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which would further favorable prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's representative by telephone to discuss possible changes.

At this time applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, and based on the above amendments and remarks, respectfully solicits allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,



By: _____
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SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.